

Message Text

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SUBJECT: CTB NEGOTIATIONS: HEADS OF DELEGATION PLENARY

MEETING OF JUNE 26

CTB MESSAGE NO. 249

1. SUMMARY: AT MEETING ON JUNE 26, EDMONDS (UK) DISTRIBUTED US-UK DELEGATIONS' ILLUSTRATIVE TEXT OF POLITICAL/LEGAL ARTICLES OF TREATY. PETROSYANTS (USSR) WELCOMED THE NEW TEXT BUT PRESSED STRONGLY FOR THE US AND UK DELEGATIONS TO INTRODUCE THEIR ILLUSTRATIVE TEXT OF ARTICLE I. HE SAW NO JUSTIFICATION FOR NOT BEING ABLE TO WORK ON THE ENTIRE TEXT OF THE MULTILATERAL TREATY. ARTICLE I, THE MAIN PROHIBITION, WAS NEEDED AT THIS STAGE. END SUMMARY.

2. AT JUNE 26 HEADS OF DELEGATION PLENARY MEETING, EDMONDS DISTRIBUTED ILLUSTRATIVE TEXT (SEPTEL) OF THE POLITICAL/LEGAL ARTICLES OF THE MULTILATERAL TREATY, INCLUDING THE CLAUSES PERTAINING TO DURATION AND A REVIEW CONFERENCE

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(TEXT AS IN STATE CTB MESSAGE 20). HE INDICATED THAT THE ILLUSTRATIVE TEXT WAS SUPPORTED BY THE US AND UK DELEGATIONS ON THE USUAL AD REFERENDUM BASIS. EDMONDS EXPLAINED THAT THE AMENDMENT PROVISIONS WOULD GIVE EACH NUCLEAR WEAPON STATE PARTY AN EFFECTIVE VETO ON ANY PROPOSED AMENDMENT WHILE AVOIDING APPARENTLY DISCRIMINATORY TERMINOLOGY AS WELL AS THE NEED TO DEFINE A NUCLEAR WEAPON STATE. HE

INDICATED THAT THE ENTRY INTO FORCE AND WITHDRAWAL CLAUSES FOLLOWED STANDARD PRECEDENTS, THAT THE REVIEW CONFERENCE PROVISION IMPLEMENTED PROPOSALS THAT THE US AND THE UK HAD PUT FORWARD EARLIER IN THE MONTH, AND THAT THE DEPOSITORY CLAUSE WAS LEFT OPEN AT THE PRESENT TIME BECAUSE THERE EXISTS A CHOICE OF PRECEDENTS AND THE ISSUE HAS NOT BEEN DISCUSSED TRILATERALLY SINCE JULY. THE NUMBER OF RATIFICATIONS NEEDED FOR ENTRY INTO FORCE WAS ALSO LEFT OPEN.

3. PETROSYANTS THANKED EDMONDS FOR THE TEXT AND WELCOMED THIS "WELL PREPARED" EFFORT. BUT, IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THE US AND UK NOW HAD MADE PROPOSALS FOR ALL MULTILATERAL ARTICLES EXCEPT ARTICLE I, HE INQUIRED WHEN WE COULD BEGIN TO WORK ON THAT IMPORTANT ARTICLE. THE SOVIET DELEGATION NOTED THAT IT HAD DISTRIBUTED A DRAFT OF ARTICLE I IN FEBRUARY. IT BELIEVED THAT IT WOULD BE MORE APPROPRIATE IF ALL OF THE TREATY ARTICLES WERE UNDER CONSIDERATION TOGETHER. "99 PERCENT OF THE WORK OF THE US AND UK DELEGATIONS HAS BEEN COMPLETED, BUT 1 PERCENT HAS BEEN LEFT UNDONE." ALTHOUGH HE RECOGNIZED THAT THE POLITICAL WORKING GROUP DID HAVE SOME MATERIAL TO WORK WITH, THE SOVIET DELEGATION WOULD WELCOME THE OTHER DELEGATIONS COMING TO THE NEXT MEETING OF THE POLITICAL WORKING GROUP WITH A PROPOSED TEXT FOR ARTICLE I. THEN WE WOULD HAVE THE WORKING MATERIAL OF THE TREATY FROM THE FIRST TO THE LAST ARTICLE. "WE HAVE THE END," HE SAID. "THE

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BEGINNING IS MISSING. THIS IS NOT LOGICAL. THE PREAMBLE COULD PROCEED FROM THE BODY OF THE TREATY IN THE FUTURE, BUT WE NEED ARTICLE I AT THIS STAGE."

4. JOHNSON (US) AGREED THAT ARTICLE I WAS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE TREATY AND SAID THE US WAS WORKING ON IT. HE RECALLED THAT UNTIL NOW WE HAD BEEN IMPLEMENTING OUR EARLIER AGREEMENT TO FOCUS PRIMARY ATTENTION ON VERIFICATION. HE ASSURED PETROSYANTS THAT THERE WILL BE AN ARTICLE I, AND WE WILL BE PRESENTING OUR VIEWS AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME.

5. PETROSYANTS REPEATED THAT THE POLITICAL WORKING GROUP SHOULD HAVE ARTICLE I BEFORE IT. HE SAW NO JUSTIFICATION FOR NOT HAVING THE ENTIRE SET OF MULTILATERAL ARTICLES BEFORE THAT GROUP. HOWEVER, IN ENSUING PROCEDURAL DISCUSSION OF HOW TO DIVIDE TIME BETWEEN WORK ON POLITICAL AND TECHNICAL ISSUES, HE AGREED THAT THE POLITICAL WORKING GROUP COULD MEET SHORTLY TO CONSIDER THE TEXT PUT FORWARD BY EDMONDS TODAY. JOHNSON

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